EXHIBIT C

applicable; (b) alter or affect the applicability of the California Code of Civil Procedure (the

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"CCP"), California Rules of Court, or the California Evidence Code (collectively, the "State
Rules"); (c) address, limit, determine, or affect the relevance, discoverability, or admissibility as
evidence of any Document or Information, regardless of whether the Document or Information is
to be preserved, is preserved, or is produced; or (d) alter or affect the objections to discovery
available under the Federal Rules or CCP; or (e) displace applicable federal and state laws with
respect to CSAM, including, without limitation, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2251, 2252, 2252, or with respect to
Defendants' reporting obligations, including, without limitation, 18 U.S.C. § 2258A. The purpose
of this Order is to facilitate the preservation of evidence in an efficient and proportional manner
and in accordance with governing law, and to give the Parties greater clarity as to their respective
preservation obligations for purposes of this Action and the measures being undertaken to preserve
Potentially Relevant Information. This Order is not intended to, and does not, establish or suggest
that any particular document, piece of information, or tangible object is or is not discoverable,
relevant, or admissible in this matter, or subject to privilege or work product protection. Each
party reserves any and all rights and objections to the collection, production, and/or use of
documents or information that may fall within the scope of this Order. This Order shall continue
in full force and effect until further Order of this Court.

I. <u>DEFINITIONS</u>

Any term used herein is synonymous with the usage of the term in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure unless otherwise stated.

- A. The term "Child Sex Abuse Material or Child Exploitation Imagery" ("CSAM or CEI") means "child pornography" as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2256(8).
- B. The term "Communication(s)" means the transmission, sending, or receipt of information of any kind (in the form of facts, ideas, inquiries, or otherwise).
- C. The term "Custodian" means a current or former employee of a Defendant that the Defendant reasonably believes, or the Court determines, possesses information that is relevant to a party's claim or defense and preservation of which is proportional to the needs of the case.

- D. The term "Information" means Documents, ESI, Communications, tangible things, and other writings as those terms are used in Rules 26 and 34 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the CCP, and the California Evidence Code.
- E. The term "**Plaintiff Device Material**" shall include all information existing on any device used by a Plaintiff to access Defendants' applications, including the passwords needed to access any such information, and any information originally created on a device but that is stored in any storage device (e.g., external hard drive, cloud storage), even if no longer available on a device.
- F. The term "Potentially Relevant Information" means Information that (i) has not been deleted prior to the Party receiving notice of this Action, (ii) has been identified by the provision of adequate information to identify and preserve it, (iii) is within the scope of the categories set forth in Sections IV.G and V.A below, and (iv) that a Party knows or has reason to believe, after a reasonable search, is or may likely be relevant to the claims or defenses asserted against it in this action. Potentially Relevant Information is subject to the date range, source, and other restrictions applicable to Plaintiffs and each Defendant, respectively, as outlined in Sections II, III, IV, and V below. Potentially Relevant Information does not include identifiable user data subject to disposition as required by privacy regulations or court orders.
- G. The term "**Preserve(d)**" means to take good faith, reasonable, and proportional steps to retain and prevent the destruction, removal, mutilation, alteration, deletion, or disposal of Potentially Relevant Information (including, where applicable, relevant document metadata) in the Party's possession, custody, or control.
- H. The term "**User**" means any account user that is identified in a Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form, or through the investigation of account-identifying information contained in a Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form.
- I. The term "Injury" means any injury, harm, symptom, or side effect a Plaintiff has asserted or will assert was caused by use of Defendants' services (including mental, psychological, or psychiatric injuries).

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- J. The term "User Data" means Potentially Relevant Information concerning a specific User and the User's devices, the preservation of which is reasonable and proportional to the needs of the case. Categories of User Data may include the data and information described below. It is expressly understood that not all Defendants create, collect, or maintain each of the categories of data or information described below in the ordinary course of business. The following list is intended to facilitate the good-faith identification of Potentially Relevant Information, and does not reflect any representation by any Defendant that such data or information is relevant, exists, or can be preserved. The scope of each Defendant's obligation to preserve User Data (including User Account Data) is defined in Section III below. Subject to those caveats, categories of User Data may include:
 - 1. Personal information concerning a User and User's account(s), and any device used to access any User's account at issue, including names, usernames, device IDs, IP addresses, date of birth, age, phone numbers, email addresses, number of accounts, or any other identifying information concerning a User and device-related information created or provided by the User and collected by Defendant in the ordinary course of business, the preservation of which is proportional to the needs of the case.
 - 2. Demographic information, which may include information about a User's age, gender, location, and other demographic characteristics created or provided by the User and collected by Defendant in the ordinary course of business, the preservation of which is proportional to the needs of the case.
 - 3. Profile information which may include information about a User's interests, preferences, and other details a User included in a profile on Defendants' service created or provided by the User and collected by Defendant in the ordinary course of business, the preservation of which is proportional to the needs of the case.
 - 4. **User Activity Data** which may include information regarding a User's Activity on the services that Plaintiffs claim in the Master Complaints filed in the MDL and JCCP (collectively, the "Master Complaints") to have used and to have suffered cognizable harm as a result of that use, and may include content a User posted, shared, or interacted with on a service and other data collected and/or activities taken in connection with User's accounts that is preserved in the ordinary course of business.
 - 5. Users' usage data, which may include information and metrics concerning account open and close dates, status, access points, devices used, account/profile settings, account-related statistics (*i.e.* snaps/messages/other sent and received, when and to who, followers, followed, friends, blocked users, etc.) and usage of the service in any regard (*i.e.* total time spent on service, number of daily sessions, etc.) collected by Defendant in the ordinary course of business, the preservation of which is proportional to the needs of the case.

- 6. Device data which may include information about the devices the User used to access a service (i.e., User's device type, IP address, browser type, operating system) collected by Defendant in the ordinary course of business, the preservation of which is proportional to the needs of the case.
- 7. Advertising data which may include information about the ads Users viewed or interacted with on the service or which were suggested to a User, as well as interests and preferences as inferred from a User's activity on the service, that is created or collected by Defendant in the ordinary course of business, the preservation of which is proportional to the needs of the case.
- 8. Data saved to a User account and relied upon by relevant algorithms to recommend content to individual Users in the ordinary course of business, the preservation of which is proportional to the needs of the case.
- K. The term "User Account Data" means User Data that Defendants are able to preserve through User account captures or snapshots. The scope of each Defendant's obligation to preserve User Account Data is defined in Section III below.

II. **GENERAL PRESERVATION OBLIGATIONS**

- A. Consistent with the factors set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26, the Parties shall take reasonable and proportional steps to preserve Potentially Relevant Information, balancing the competing needs to ensure that proper ESI is preserved, while also reducing the costs and burdens of preservation. To that end, the parties have engaged in numerous meet and confers regarding preservation, including hours of detailed, defendant-specific discussions regarding each individual Defendants' proprietary systems, data collection and retention practices, and preservation capabilities and limitations. The provisions that follow are informed by those discussions and outline the scope of the Parties' obligations with respect to Potentially Relevant Information.
- В. **Ephemeral Service or Application Data.** The Parties acknowledge and agree that the preservation of ephemeral data that would require a party to disable or change any operating system powering the provision of a Defendant's service or application to its users such that the service or application will behave in a way other than what is represented to users, including eliminating the ephemeral characteristics of any service or social media application, would be contrary to privacy laws, regulations, and judicial orders, and that doing so is not reasonably

accessible for preservation purposes and is not proportional to the needs of the case. The Parties are not required to take such steps.

- C. <u>Preservation of User Data</u>. Defendants' obligations to Preserve User Data (including User Account Data) are identified in the party-specific provisions of Section III.
- D. Preservation of Non-User Custodial and Non-Custodial Data Sources.

 Defendants' obligations to Preserve Information other than User Account Data is governed by Section IV, which identifies a list of the types of ESI that the Parties believe should be preserved if (1) in existence as of when the Parties reasonably anticipated litigation, had notice of its relevance to the litigation, and had received adequate information to identify and preserve it; and (2) to the extent that preservation is reasonable, proportional, and not unduly burdensome based on each Defendant's capabilities.
- E. <u>Legal Hold Notices to Custodians.</u> Defense counsel shall ensure that legal hold notices have been disseminated to Defendants' employees reasonably believed to possess Potentially Relevant Information. Auto-delete functions for workplace chats, if they are employed by a Defendant, have been disabled for employees to whom Legal Hold Notices have been issued, and employees have been instructed to refrain from communicating about this Action on third-party messaging apps that Defendants may not have the ability to preserve. To the extent Defendants become aware of additional individuals who may possess unique Potentially Relevant Information, Defendants will issue the legal hold notice to those additional employees. Counsel for individual Plaintiffs shall ensure that legal hold notices have been disseminated to their clients and will advise Plaintiffs of their current and continuing obligations to preserve and not alter or destroy any Potentially Relevant Information.
- F. In accordance with ESI Guideline 2.01(d), the Parties will continue to meet and confer over their respective ESI preservation obligations and needs and agree that preservation of

Relevant ESI will be reasonable and proportionate. The Parties acknowledge and agree that good-faith cooperation and a reasonable measure of early disclosure and transparency regarding Defendants' systems and data sources, including numerous conferrals between the Parties held in the process of negotiating this Preservation Order, are appropriate to facilitate determinations regarding what is reasonable and Proportionate given the circumstances of this Action.

- G. The Parties acknowledge that Defendants are subject to and will comply with various privacy regulations and court orders that require the disposition of identifiable user data. Defendants' compliance with such regulations and court orders will not constitute a violation of this Preservation Order or Defendants' preservation obligations in this Action.
- H. Reservation of Right to Object. Nothing in this Order waives the right of any party to petition the Court for an order modifying its terms upon sufficient demonstration that compliance with such terms is unreasonably burdensome or infeasible or that Preservation of particular information in a certain format or with different metadata fields is reasonably necessary, provided, however that counsel for such party must first meet and confer with opposing counsel and shall use reasonable efforts to negotiate an exception from or modification to this Order prior to seeking relief from the Court.

III. <u>DEFENDANTS' PRESERVATION OBLIGATIONS REGARDING USER</u> <u>DATA</u>

- A. The scope of each Defendant's obligation to preserve User Data is defined below. Defendants shall take reasonable and proportional steps to ensure the preservation of such User Data, consistent with the obligations described below. Each Defendant collects and stores different types of information, and each Defendant has varying capabilities to reasonably access the various types of information based on their unique systems.
- B. Furthermore, Defendants have no obligations to preserve any User Account Data or other User Data beyond application of each Defendants' standard retention policies applied in the ordinary course of business, unless and until each respective Defendant receives from each Plaintiff a complete Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form. To avoid ambiguity, this

means that Defendants cannot—consistent with privacy concerns and technical limitations—identify and/or preserve User Data based on incomplete or inaccurate information that is insufficient to identify a user account and/or information that yields more than one potentially matching user account.

C. The Account Identifying Information required for each Defendant, below, must be submitted by a Plaintiff on the Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form approved by the Court (or on an equivalent, web-based form if agreed to by the parties). A Plaintiff must submit the Account Identifying Information via the Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form approved by the Court even if that Plaintiff previously submitted some or all of the information in another manner. Each existing Plaintiff must provide to Defendants a Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form within a reasonable time after entry of this Order. Each future Plaintiff must provide to Defendants a Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form within two weeks of filing a Short Form Complaint. If a Plaintiff must amend a previously served User Account Preservation Form, all subsequent versions must be named accordingly (e.g., "First Amended User Account Preservation Form," etc.).

D. <u>Meta Defendants</u>. Meta Platforms, Inc.; Facebook Payments, Inc.; Siculus, Inc.; Facebook Operations, LLC; and Instagram, LLC (collectively, "Meta") are obligated to preserve User Data as follows:

- 1. Only ESI created or received between January 1, 2015 and February 14, 2023, and not deleted prior to receiving notice of this Action, will be preserved.
- 2. Meta cannot—and has no obligation to—retain any User Data for any particular Plaintiff unless and until a reasonable time after Meta receives from that Plaintiff a complete Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form.

Facebook and Instagram User Account Data:

a. Within a reasonable time after receiving the Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form for any individual Plaintiff, and subject to the limitations in this Order, Meta will preserve a one-time account capture, ¹ using Meta's Switchboard tool, of the following categories of User Account Data of any

¹ Meta cannot preserve Plaintiffs' Instagram or Facebook "feeds" exactly as they appeared to Plaintiffs when using Instagram or Facebook.

1 account identified pursuant to Section III.C as it exists at the time of taking the capture.² 2 i. Instagram account captures will generally contain at least the following types of User Account Data, to the extent available: 3 1. Basic subscriber information: name, vanity, phone number, 4 email, registration date, registration IP, logins, and account end date; 5 2. Information related to linked accounts, changes to name, vanity, and email; 6 3. Profile photo, bio information, and gender; 7 4. List of followers, accounts following, and incoming follow 8 requests for the account; 5. Records of likes and comments, and comment likes made by 9 the account, and a link to the media that the account interacted with; 10 6. Searches made by the account; 11 7. Videos and photos posted by the account, including archived content; and 12 8. Private messages between the account user and other 13 accounts. 14 Facebook account captures will generally contain at least the ii. following types of User Account Data, to the extent available: 15 1. Basic subscriber information: name, vanity, phone number, email, registration date, registration IP, logins, and account 16 end date: 17 2. Information related to linked accounts, changes to name, vanity, and email; 18 3. Profile and about me information, including gender; 19 4. Records of comments, likes, poll votes, and saves made by the account, and a link to the media that the account 20 interacted with; 21 5. Searches made by the account; 22 ² Meta does not have any obligation to itself preserve User Account Data using the tools Meta makes available to its users to download their account data. More information regarding those 23 tools is available at the following links (*see also* Section V.B below): https://www.facebook.com/help/212802592074644 24 https://help.instagram.com/181231772500920 25

1	6. Videos, photos, and posts made by the account, including archived content; and
2	7. Private messages between the account user and other
3	accounts.
4	 Account captures will not contain any content that was deleted by the user before the capture was generated.
5	iv. Account captures will not contain any content posted by other users that the account interacted with. In order to preserve content
6	plaintiffs viewed or interacted with, Meta therefore will preserve, within a reasonable time after identifying and preserving accounts a described in Section III.C above, and to the extent reasonable and
7	proportional:
8	1. The accounts plaintiffs were following or friends with as of the date that such accounts are identified, including at minimum basic subscriber information and all of the non-
9	deleted content that those accounts posted that plaintiffs potentially saw; and
10	2. The accounts plaintiffs did not follow or friend but whose
11	2. The accounts plaintiffs did not follow or friend but whose content plaintiffs interacted with, including at minimum basic subscriber information and all the non-deleted content
12	they posted and that Plaintiffs interacted with. "Interacted with" shall mean liking, commenting on, and saving.
13 14	 With respect to adult Plaintiffs, Meta is under no obligation to search for and preserve User Account Data (or User Data) for accounts beyond those identified using the data points provided by Plaintiffs in a Plaintiff User
15	Account Preservation Form.
13	c. With respect to Plaintiffs who are suing on behalf of deceased minors, Meta
16	will perform a reasonable search for additional accounts that may have belonged to the minor user, using the account information provided by Plaintiffs in a Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form as a starting point.
17	
18	i. During Meta's reasonable and proportional search for additional accounts in response to cases involving Plaintiffs who are suing on behalf of deceased minors, it will review phone numbers, email
19	addresses, and Device IDs that appear in Meta's records as being linked to the accounts that are initially identified by searches using the account information provided by Plaintiffs. Meta will consider
20	common phone numbers, email addresses, and Device IDs as data points potentially indicating that two accounts have a common user.
21	With respect to Device IDs, Meta will review potential accounts only where the volume is low enough that it is reasonably likely to
22	return positive matches.
23	ii. Meta's reasonable and proportional search for additional accounts ir response to cases involving Plaintiffs who are suing on behalf of deceased minors will include a review of basic information
24	regarding the account and any content posted by the account that is publicly available at the time of the review. Meta's reasonable and
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proportional search will not include a review of any private content posted by the account or any messages sent or received by the account.

- iii. Meta will preserve User Account Data for all accounts it identifies through its reasonable and proportional search as reasonably likely to have been used by the deceased minor.
- d. With respect to Plaintiffs suing on behalf of minors, Meta will consider, on a case-by-case basis, requests to search for additional accounts that may belong to the minor user following the process set forth in Section III.D.2.c above and using the account information provided by Plaintiffs in a Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form as a starting point.
 - i. Any Plaintiff making such a request must describe with specificity the circumstances requiring such a search.
 - ii. Meta is not obligated to perform any search, or identify and preserve any User Account Data, pursuant to this subparagraph III.D.2.d.

For any Facebook or Instagram accounts identified in a Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form as belonging to any third party alleged to have engaged in misconduct related to a Plaintiff on Facebook or Instagram, and subject to the limitations in this Order, within a reasonable amount of time after Plaintiffs provide the information in Section III.C, above, Meta will Preserve a single account capture of any identified account as it exists at the time of taking the capture. The capture will contain the information described in Section III.D.2.a.

- e. To the extent that no Facebook or Instagram account is associated with the information provided by a Plaintiff, no User Account Data will be identified or preserved.
- f. To the extent that any claims implicate information associated with users under the age of 13, the Plaintiff's Representative in the Action specifically consents to Meta's retention of data associated with the under-13 user and to application of any relevant policies of Defendants, including but not limited to policies requiring such accounts to be deleted following preservation.
- g. Meta has no obligation to Preserve any User Account Data on an ongoing basis. Moreover, nothing in this provision affects each Plaintiff's independent obligation to preserve all User Account Data accessible to them.
- 3. The Meta Defendants agree to take reasonable and proportional steps to Preserve User Data that is not User Account Data to the extent that data is relevant to a Party's claim or defense and proportional to the needs of the case, subject to the other provisions of this Order addressing User Data.
- 4. The Meta Defendants are not obligated to preserve any data or information from or related to any services provided by Meta or its subsidiaries or affiliates other than Facebook and Instagram, including (but not limited to) Users' use of WhatsApp or Oculus.

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- F. <u>TikTok Defendants</u>: TikTok Inc. and ByteDance Inc. ("TikTok Defendants") are obligated to preserve User Data, as follows:
 - 1. Only ESI created or received between January 1, 2018 and October 6, 2022, and retained prior to this Action will be preserved.⁴
 - TikTok User Data. The TikTok Defendants cannot—and have no obligation to—retain any User Data until a reasonable time after TikTok receives from each respective Plaintiff a complete and accurate Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form.
 - a. Within a reasonable amount of time after a Plaintiff provides a User Account Preservation Form, TikTok will preserve available User Account Data for any accounts that may be located with the information provided on the User Account Preservation Form through use of affirmative collection efforts from the user account using its existing preservation tools as of the time of preservation. Unless it has been deleted by the user prior to preservation, the data preserved includes:
 - i. Basic subscriber information
 - ii. Profile photo and bio
 - iii. User uploads (including TikTok videos) and related metadata
 - iv. Comments and related metadata
 - v. Direct messages and related metadata
 - vi. Account activity (followers, following, likes)
 - b. Preservation Limitations: TikTok User Accounts may contain thousands of User Data that are managed in a highly decentralized fashion. Numerous data points are system file fields that do not contain substantive data or that are not relevant to the claims alleged in the instant litigation. Furthermore, risk of loss of data from certain data points is rare but unavoidable given the various business owners with manual account management responsibility over data fields. TikTok has taken reasonable and proportional efforts to preserve likely relevant data fields, including instructing business processes to bypass any retention periods that may exist. TikTok also notes that not all data fields preserved may ultimately be exportable.
 - c. <u>TikTok agrees</u> to take reasonable and proportional steps to Preserve User Data that is not User Account Data to the extent that data is relevant to a

⁴ TikTok states that it has undertaken a good faith and proportionately reasonable effort to identify sources of data within its custody and control that may contain information relevant to the claims alleged in this litigation. TikTok states that it does not represent that this listing is exhaustive and reserves the right to update and/or revise by notice in writing to Plaintiffs within a reasonable time if additional sources of information are identified.

Party's claim or defense and proportional to the needs of the case, subject to the other provisions of this Order addressing User Data.

- d. TikTok is under no obligation to search for and Preserve User Data for accounts beyond those identified using the User Account Preservation Form.
- 3. For any TikTok accounts identified as belonging to any third party alleged to have engaged in misconduct related to a Plaintiff on TikTok, TikTok will preserve data through use of affirmative collection efforts from the user account using its existing preservation tools as of the time of preservation within a reasonable amount of time after Plaintiffs provide the User Account Preservation Form. *See also* Preservation Limitations identified above.
- 4. TikTok has no obligation to Preserve any Plaintiff User Data on an ongoing basis. Moreover, nothing in this provision affects each Plaintiff's independent obligation to preserve all User Account Data accessible to them.
- G. <u>YouTube Defendants.</u> Alphabet, Google, and YouTube ("YouTube Defendants") are obligated to preserve User Data, including User Account Data on YouTube that is saved to any User's account, as follows:
 - 1. Only ESI created or received between August 2, 2017, and October 6, 2022, and retained prior to this Action, will be preserved.
 - 2. User Data. The YouTube Defendants cannot—and have no obligation to—retain any User Data unless and until a reasonable time after YouTube receives from each respective Plaintiff a complete and accurate Plaintiff User Account Preservation Form that identifies, at minimum:
 - i. The Plaintiff's full name;
 - ii. All email address(es) associated with the Google account(s) the Plaintiff used to access YouTube and, if possible, the Plaintiff's YouTube username(s);⁵
 - iii. To the extent Plaintiff User's claims are predicated on use of an account opened and used primarily by a user other than the Plaintiff User, the full legal name of the third party, all known account identifying information (including the email address associated with the account), and the (estimated) time period during which the Plaintiff used that Google account to access YouTube;
 - iv. (For any Plaintiff who is a minor) the name of the Plaintiff's legal representative or guardian ad litem ("Representative") with authority

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⁵ Plaintiffs should endeavor to provide YouTube usernames whenever possible. In certain instances where Plaintiffs provide only an email address, YouTube may require additional verifying information.

1		to consent to the preservation of information and to receive information on the minor Plaintiff's behalf; and
2		v. (If entered) a court guardian ad litem order demonstrating the
3		Representative's authority.
4	b.	Within a reasonable time after receiving the Account Identification Information for any individual Plaintiff, and subject to the limitations in provisions in Sections III.G.2.c–f below, YouTube will conduct a
5		reasonable search for any Google account associated with the email address(es) provided by the Plaintiff in the User Account Preservation
6		Form.
7	c.	To the extent that no Google account is associated with the email address(es) provided by a Plaintiff in the User Account Preservation Form, no User Data can be preserved. To the extent a Google account is
8		associated with the email address(es) provided by Plaintiff, YouTube shall preserve a single account snapshot of the following categories of User Account Data associated with a GAIA ID that exist at the time of
9		preservation for any identified Google account(s), 6 to the extent available:
10		 YouTube and YouTube Music Basic subscriber account Information;
11		ii. YouTube and YouTube Music User settings Information;
12		iii. YouTube and YouTube Music User comments and related metadata
13		iv. YouTube and YouTube Music User uploads and related metadata;
14		v. YouTube and YouTube Music User channels and related metadata;
15		vi. YouTube and YouTube Music User subscriptions; and
16		vii. YouTube and YouTube Music User activity.
17	d.	Sub-13 Accounts. To the extent that any Plaintiff seeks preservation of any User Data associated with a User under the age of 13, including a User who
18		created or used an adult account, the Plaintiff's identified Representative in the Action specifically consents to YouTube's retention of data associated
19		with the sub-13 User and to application of YouTube's applicable policies, including but not limited to, policies relating to the closure or conversion of
20	_	such accounts to supervised accounts.
21	e.	The YouTube Defendants are not obligated to preserve any data or information from or related to any services provided by Google or its subsidiaries or affiliates other than YouTube.
22	f.	YouTube shall have no obligation to preserve any User Data on an ongoing basis. However, nothing in this provision precludes Plaintiff from
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24	⁶ Account capture capture was generated	s will not contain any content that was deleted by the user before the d.
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preserving any User Account Data, including on an ongoing basis, through Google's Takeout tool as provided in Section V.B, infra.

IV. PRESERVATION OBLIGATIONS REGARDING OTHER (NON-USER) DATA SOURCES

- A. General Principles. Consistent with the Manual For Complex Litigation's objective to eliminate unnecessary litigation costs, the Parties' obligations to preserve Information pursuant to this Order should be aimed at "best preserv[ing] relevant matter without imposing undue burdens." See Manual for Complex Litigation, Fourth Edition § 11.442. As such, the Parties shall take reasonable and proportional steps and negotiate in good faith to ensure that information subject to this Order is Preserved without imposing unnecessary preservation costs and burdens on each other. The Parties recognize that Defendants employ different data collection and data management systems and processes so what is reasonable for one Defendant may not be reasonable or feasible for another based on their unique system(s) and differing preservation capabilities.
- B. The fact that Information may or may not be included in the scope of this Order is not intended to, and does not, establish or suggest that the Information is or is not discoverable, relevant, or admissible in this Action, or that it is or is not subject to privilege, work product, or other protection.
- C. <u>Custodial Data</u>. Defendant(s) have taken, and will continue to take, reasonable steps to investigate and identify Custodians who are reasonably likely to possess Potentially Relevant Information. To facilitate the identification of Custodians and reasonably ensure the Preservation of Potentially Relevant Information they may possess, the parties have exchanged or will exchange lists and are working cooperatively to identify, for each Plaintiff and each Defendant, a list of the general job titles or descriptions of custodians for whom they believe ESI should be preserved.

- D. <u>Databases and Logs</u>. Defendants agree to take reasonable and proportional steps to Preserve Potentially Relevant Information contained in databases, database management systems, and proprietary systems to the extent that data is relevant to a Party's claim or defense and proportional to the needs of the case. The Parties recognize that it may not be feasible, reasonable, or proportional for Defendants to preserve certain log data, or that certain log data cannot be Preserved without undue burden, due to factors such as data volume and system limitations, as well as Defendants' inability to identify or isolate the portion(s) of the databases or logs that may contain Potentially Relevant Information.
- E. <u>Internet and Intranet Sites</u>. To the extent it exists, each Defendant shall take reasonable and proportional steps to preserve Potentially Relevant Information contained on that Defendant's internet or intranet sites. For clarity, the information on internet sites referenced in this section does not include information posted by or presented to users, or with which users otherwise interact, on Defendants' platforms, which is governed by other provisions of this order.
- F. <u>Variations</u>. In light of the varying and disparate data systems and architectures employed by the Parties, departures from this Order may be required. In the event that any Party identifies a circumstance where application of this Order is not technologically possible, proportional, or practicable, or involves Information that is not reasonably accessible, that Party will disclose the reason(s) for and circumstances surrounding the need to depart from this Order, and the Parties will meet and confer in an effort to reach agreement on an appropriate departure from this Order. In the event that the Parties cannot reach agreement, the matter may be submitted to the Court for determination.
- G. <u>Potentially Relevant Information</u>. Parties agree that Information related to the following topics is potentially relevant to this Action and should be preserved to the extent (1) it

was created between the date specified for each Defendant in Section III above and February 14, 2023; (2) it was or is in existence as of when the Parties reasonably anticipated litigation and had notice of its relevance to the litigation; and (3) Preservation is reasonable, proportional, and not unduly burdensome based on each Defendant's capabilities:

- 1. Information concerning this Action;
- 2. Information concerning (i) the effects of Defendants' services that Plaintiffs challenge in the Master Complaints on the mental health and welfare of minor users; and (ii) the safety of Defendants' services that Plaintiffs challenge in the Master Complaints for minor users, including studies regarding:
 - a. time or duration of use;
 - b. addictive, habitual, compulsive, or otherwise problematic use;
 - c. minor user activity, usage patterns, and engagement; and
 - d. abusive or other activity that violates Defendants' community guidelines or standards with respect to minor users.
- 3. Information concerning the collection, use, and sharing of minor users' information for purposes of providing personalized content to users on Defendants' services that Plaintiffs challenge in the Master Complaints;
- 4. Information concerning the design, development, and functionality of the features of Defendants' services that Plaintiffs challenge in the Master Complaints, including how those features may have changed during the time period relevant to this case. These features include (and the Parties recognize that many features are present in only some, but not all, of Defendants' services):
 - a. User account creation and any age restrictions associated thereto;
 - b. Tools to determine, approximate, or estimate user age; and
 - c. Algorithmic recommendations, including social networking recommendations; group recommendations; and content recommendations;
 - d. Geo-location and device tracking features;
 - e. Features such as "Tagging", "Liking", "Following" and/ or hashtags;

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2252, 2252A; see also Cal. Penal Code § 311 et seq. Accordingly, Defendants will not preserve CSAM for purposes of this Action. Instead, Defendants' reporting of CSAM in accordance with their reporting obligations and practices as described in paragraph IV(H)(2) below, and their preservation of information in accordance with paragraph IV(H)(3) below, shall satisfy their preservation obligations in this Action with respect to CSAM.

- The Protect Our Children Act requires certain providers, including Defendants, to make reports of CSAM to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children ("NCMÉC") NCMEC CyberTipline in certain circumstances. See 18 U.S.C. § 2258A(a)(1)(A). In the ordinary course of business and in their "sole discretion," 18 U.S.C. § 2258A(b), each Defendant currently usually includes the reported CSAM (to the extent practicable and readily available) in the information it reports to the NCMEC CyberTipline. The Parties have met and conferred about the non-CSAM information that Defendants generally report to the NCMEC CyberTipline. Counsel for each Defendant will promptly alert counsel for the other Parties if that Defendant no longer includes reported CSAM (to the extent practicable and readily available) in its reports to the NCMEC CyberTipline in the ordinary course of business.
- 3. Defendants shall preserve the following information relating to NCMEC CyberTipline reports that Defendants are able to determine relate to CSAM sent to or from or uploaded by a Plaintiff User, to the extent such information is already generated and/or preserved in the ordinary course of Defendants' businesses:
 - An identification number for the NCMEC report;
 - The time and date the NCMEC report was submitted;
 - An identifier for the account that uploaded or sent the reported media;
 - d. In the case of media sent from one user account directly to one or more other user accounts, identifiers for such recipient accounts;
 - An identifier or identifiers for each reported piece of media;
 - The IP address associated with each media upload;
 - The time each reported piece of media was uploaded;
 - The type of each reported piece of media;
 - The A1-B2 or "severe meme" classification assigned to each reported piece of media.
- Limitations on Obligations to Search or Preserve Particular Data Sources. I.
 - 1. For Defendants, some or all of the following data sources and data types are not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(2)(B), and unwarranted extraordinary measures will not be taken to preserve ESI from these sources, which may be retained pursuant to standard business processes, but not otherwise preserved, searched, reviewed, or produced:
 - a. backup systems and/or tapes;

the extent it exists and is accessible to the Plaintiff, once the Plaintiff reasonably anticipates litigation:⁷

- Plaintiff's use and interaction with Defendants' services, including (i) any User Account Data; (ii) any communications or content created by a Plaintiff; and (iii) any third-party communications or content a User has accessed or received via Defendants' service.⁸
- 2. Communications related to (i) this Action, (ii) a Plaintiff's account on Defendants' service, (iii) a user's use of the service, including Injuries suffered as a result of using Defendants' services, or (iv) Defendants' services.
- 3. Information, documents, or materials related to Injuries or a Plaintiff's physical, mental, or emotional condition, including (but not limited to):
 - a. Those reflecting expenditures attributable to Injuries;
 - b. Those relating to a Plaintiff's physical, mental, or emotional condition:
 - c. Photographs, videos, audio recordings, slides, CDs, DVDs, artwork, or any other media relating to Plaintiff's physical, mental, or emotional condition during the time Plaintiff claims to have suffered from Injuries, or Plaintiff's life thereafter;
 - d. E-mails, tweets, text messages, social media posts, or other posts (including any pictures or videos included with post) on any websites, chat rooms, blogs, message boards, support groups, or social media services about Plaintiff's physical, mental, or emotional condition or Injuries;
 - e. Diaries, journals, or notebooks discussing Defendants' services; Plaintiff's physical, mental, or emotional condition or Injuries;
 - f. Calendars, datebooks, appointment books, or other documents in recording appointments related to Injuries;
 - g. Those related to any workers' compensation, Social Security, or other disability claims, benefits, or compensation;

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⁷ The inclusion of these topics is not intended to suggest that every User possesses information concerning all topics in this Paragraph.

⁸ To the extent Plaintiffs delete any User accounts or User Account Data, in violation of their Preservation obligations, Defendants may be unable to preserve such User accounts, User Account Data, or User Activity Data.

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- f. Military service;
- g. Any media viewed and/or heard by User and their parents concerning the alleged effects of Defendants' apps and services on Adolescent users;
- h. Parental efforts to guide or control social media use;
- Discrimination, harassment, trauma, violence, threats, bullying, cyberbullying, emotional neglect, physical abuse, physical assault, physical neglect, rape, sexual abuse, sexual assault, self-harm, or verbal abuse experienced by a Plaintiff.
- B. Plaintiffs' obligations to preserve Potentially Relevant Information related to their use and interaction with Defendants' services, as contemplated in Section V.A, includes, but is not limited to, an obligation to preserve the Potentially Relevant information related to their use and interaction with Defendants' services that is readily available to them via tools provided by Defendants, as outlined in this subsection. In certain circumstances, Plaintiffs' User Account Data is more accessible to Plaintiffs than to Defendants, because (i) the information necessary to locate Plaintiffs' accounts is in Plaintiffs' sole possession; (ii) knowledge regarding Plaintiffs' use of those accounts (including new activity on those accounts that may be relevant to the Action) is in Plaintiffs' possession; and/or (iii) Defendants provide tools that permit Plaintiffs readily to Preserve their own account data. Accordingly, Plaintiffs are obligated to preserve the information readily available to them, as follows:
 - 1. Concurrently with or promptly after filing of any short-form complaint in the Action, all Plaintiffs asserting claims against Meta are obligated to preserve all information relating to their usage of Instagram and/or Facebook that is available to them through Meta's Download Your Data tools. which are described at https://help.instagram.com/181231772500920 and https://www.facebook.com/help/212802592074644. Specifically, Plaintiffs must Preserve information through Meta's Download Your Data tools for every Instagram and/or Facebook account they claim to have used.
 - 2. Concurrently with or promptly after filing of any short-form complaint in the Action, all Plaintiffs asserting claims against YouTube are obligated to preserve all information relating to their usage of YouTube that is available to them through

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1	Google's Takeout Tool, which is available at https://takeout.google.com/ Specifically, Plaintiffs must Preserve information through Google's Takeout Tool for every Google account they claim to have used to access YouTube.			
3	3. Concurrently with or promptly after filing of any short-form complaint in the Action.			
4	all Plaintiffs asserting claims against Snap are obligated to preserve all information relating to their usage of Snapchat that is available to them through Snapchat's tool.			
5	which is described at https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-us/articles/7012305371156.			
6	Specifically, Plaintiffs must preserve information through Snapchat's tool for every Snapchat account they claim to have used to access Snapchat.			
7	VI. <u>CONTINUING OBLIGATIONS</u>			
8	Periodically, no less than once per calendar year, the Parties will meet and confer to discu			
9	the preservation obligations outlined herein, specifically as related to additional Parties, non-			
10	parties, or newly identified sources of documents, data, or other tangible things. This Order does			
11	not address or resolve any objections to the scope of the Parties' respective discovery requests.			
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13	IT IS SO ORDERED.			
14	DATED:			
15	The Honorable Thomas S. Hixson United States Magistrate Judge			
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